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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

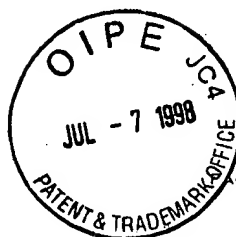
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**REGISTERED PATENT AGENTS

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

INTERNET ADDRESS:

July 7, 1998

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/058,350; Filed: April 10, 1998
For: RNA Isolation Reagent and Methods
Inventor: Domenica A. SIMMS
Our Ref: 0942.3840001/REF/AJK

Sir:

Applicant submits the following documents for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. One page of Form PTO-1449;
3. A copy of each of the two documents cited thereon; and
4. Return postcard.

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
July 7, 1998
Page 2

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Raz E. Fleshner
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,331

REF/AJK/neh
Enclosures

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

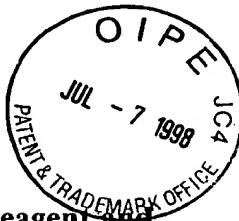
In re application of:

Domenica A. Simms

Appl. No. 09/058,350

Filed: April 10, 1998

For: **RNA Isolation Reagent and
Methods**



Art Unit: 1649

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0942.3840001/RWE

Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. A copy of each of these documents is provided.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not

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exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: July 7, 1998

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